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1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

3 WYNDHOLME VILLIAGE, LLC., et al., \*  
4 Plaintiffs/Counter-Defendants, \*  
5 \* CIVIL ACTION  
6 vs. \* NO. L01-3809

7 \*  
8 NADIF OF WYNDHOLME, LLC., et al., \* VOLUME I  
9 Defendants/Counter-Plaintiffs. \* (Pages 1-256)

10 \* \* \* \* \*

11  
12 The deposition of JAMES M. LANCELOTTA was  
13 taken on Thursday, January 16, 2003, commencing at  
14 10:00 a.m., at Tydings & Rosenberg, 100 East Pratt  
15 Street, Suite 2600, Baltimore, Maryland 21202,  
16 before Alfred A. Betz, Notary Public.

17  
18 \* \* \* \* \*

19 Reported by:  
20 Alfred A. Betz,  
21 Registered Merit Reporter

0104

1 their source of funding?

2 A. Oh, geez, let's see. Mr. Fisher said

3 that NADIF of Wyndholme, he said we set up our

4 company separately for E. Kennedy but NADIF is a

5 fund, it has millions and millions of dollars

6 available all the time in it, so -- and Mr.

7 Pilevsky is a principal of NADIF of Wyndholme, he

8 said we're building a Ritz-Carlton in Coconut

9 Grove, we're working on the tallest building in the

10 world to be built in Florida, showing me turncoats

11 for 500 million.

12 Q. He said that Mr. Pilevsky was a principal

13 of NADIF of Wyndholme?

14 A. No, no. NADIF. NADIF. There's no NADIF

15 of Wyndholme yet.

16 Q. Right. What did you understand NADIF to

17 mean?

18 A. North American Doctors. They gave me a

19 business card. Fisher was the CEO. He told me

20 Jack Quinn was the experienced development -- the

21 reason they were so successful was because of the

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1 expertise of each person. Whenever I was directing  
2 questions, whatever area of expertise that lied in,  
3 to talk to that individual.

4 Q. What was Jack's expertise?

5 A. Developer. He told me about projects he  
6 had done. They meant nothing to me on Long Island.  
7 He built part of Yankee Stadium, I think.

8 Q. And what about Mr. Zukerman?

9 A. Zukerman? He was the ex-CFO of a major  
10 publicly traded company and he was supposedly a  
11 wizard with numbers. And he was the one that would  
12 set up the financial, review the financial returns  
13 for the NADIF group, and that was his job. He was  
14 the finance. He was the money guy. All the monies  
15 would go through him.

16 Q. Did Gotham enter the picture at that  
17 point?

18 A. That day?

19 Q. That day?

20 A. No.

21 Q. When did you first hear the name Gotham?

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1       A. As I told you, Mr. Fisher said he had  
2       many access to cash, millions, from all different  
3       avenues or sources. I guess they didn't know who  
4       they were going to use yet.

5       Q. The gist of this provision is that  
6       whatever the entity would be, it would either  
7       facilitate a commitment for the construction  
8       financing or -- and I'll quote in the middle of the  
9       page -- in the event that a recognized lending  
10      institution is not willing to issue such a  
11      commitment, end quote, then whatever the entity is  
12      would actually make the construction loan?

13       A. As I told you, the whole thing with them  
14       was if they didn't provide the cash necessary to  
15       build the first phase, there was no sense joining  
16       partners. We were stuck in the mud.

17       Q. This is consistent with your recollection  
18       of the initial meeting with these folks?

19       A. Oh, yeah. It was consistent the whole  
20       time.

21       Q. But it would also be consistent of your

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1 A. Right.

2 Q. Was that correct?

3 A. Yes. They wouldn't take it.

4 Q. Is that right?

5 A. Yeah. I didn't have the financial

6 wherewithal for them, plus -- they wouldn't take

7 it.

8 Q. Okay. Do you recall whether it was

9 necessary that Leeds be satisfied that First

10 Mariner or somebody was going to come up with money

11 on this thing in September? I mean, keep in mind

12 that the bankruptcy, there was going to be a

13 reconvening of the hearing.

14 A. You're hitting a key point. They had to

15 believe, I mean everybody believed Fisher and crowd

16 and group were going to provide the money.

17 Regardless, whether either from a bank, here,

18 there, Pilevsky's pocket. I don't know. I mean, I

19 can't, in my mind now just common sense tells me

20 how in God's name would the bankruptcy court let

21 this thing go forward if they didn't think he had

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1 the wherewithal. You might say why did he have the  
2 wherewithal? Anybody that puts \$2 million on the  
3 table, that tells me I don't have to go check them  
4 out. Somebody's putting \$2 million, which they  
5 have, over there.

6 Q. But the term presented to the Court  
7 wasn't a NADIF term sheet, it was a First Mariner  
8 term sheet, right?

9 A. The court, the thing doesn't say anything  
10 about what kind of term sheet it has -- I told you  
11 this term sheet, this is a broad interpretation.  
12 This is addressed to me, it's not even addressed to  
13 NADIF. I mean, so the Court saw that. Christ,  
14 they saw my name on there, didn't they?

15 MR. SCHULMAN: I'm going to instruct the  
16 witness to watch --

17 A. I apologize.

18 MR. SAMMONS: It's getting a little late.

19 MR. SCHULMAN: -- I would say his  
20 colorful emphasis.

21 Q. But your understanding of the venture

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1 representatives of NADIF had not contacted those  
2 institutions about funding?

3 A. No. If they said they did, I can't  
4 dispute that.

5 Q. The next sentence says, "Although Gotham  
6 was prepared to partially collateralize the loan,  
7 that was not enough for the institutions."

8 Is that a correct statement? Do you  
9 remember any conversations about Gotham partially  
10 collateralizing the loan?

11 A. I'll say it again. If I did what I was  
12 supposed to do, the \$7 million was supposed to be  
13 there. How they did it was not my concern.

14 Q. But, do you recall being involved in  
15 discussions where you understood somebody else  
16 was providing the funding but Gotham would  
17 provide some collateralization for the funding?

18 A. I'll say it again. You know, that was  
19 not my concern.

20 Q. Well, my question is do you recall being  
21 involved in such discussions? Were you aware

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1 that Gotham offered to collateralize loans from  
2 other lending institutions in order to get the deal  
3 done?

4 A. It says it right here. I mean this is  
5 what you're telling me here. It was "prepared  
6 to partially collateralize." To refer to the  
7 previous exhibit, you know, if they would fully  
8 guarantee or pledge securities they would --  
9 there might be an opportunity to finance this  
10 transaction.

11 Q. But my question is specific to this  
12 sentence I just read, where Mr. Fisher tells you  
13 that Gotham was prepared to partially collateralize  
14 the loan. And my question is, do you recall that  
15 being a fact? Did you know at the time that Gotham  
16 was prepared to partially collateralize the loan,  
17 notwithstanding the fact that Gotham had made it  
18 clear that they weren't going to be involved in  
19 this project?

20 MR. SCHULMAN: Objection.

21 THE WITNESS: I don't know how to answer

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1 that. I'm going by what Fisher told me here. If  
2 somebody told me that Gotham had \$500 million,  
3 however they got me the \$7 million was their  
4 business.

5 BY MR. SAMMONS:

6 Q. Well, let me ask you this question then.  
7 Do you believe that Mr. Fisher was telling you  
8 the truth when he said that Gotham was prepared  
9 to partially collateralize the loan?

10 A. I have no reason to doubt what you're  
11 saying. You know, I couldn't verify it either way.  
12 If you ask me that question today, my answer might  
13 be different.

14 Q. Well, what is your answer today?

15 A. I don't know if I would believe Fisher  
16 today. Because based on the information I've seen,  
17 he didn't have the authority to say this anyway.  
18 That was news to me.

19 Q. Didn't have the authority to --

20 A. He said he was never a member of NADIF.  
21 I always thought he was the managing partner who